

## **Some Guidelines for Learning from Student Work**

[http://www.essentialschools.org/cs/resources/view/ces\\_res/57](http://www.essentialschools.org/cs/resources/view/ces_res/57)

*Looking closely together at student work can unveil a treasure trove of insights to guide school communities as they reflect on their purpose, assess their progress, and plan strategies for reaching all children better. It's scary work, though, and respectful protocols can help.*

### **When looking for evidence of student thinking:**

[http://www.essentialschools.org/cs/resources/view/ces\\_res/57](http://www.essentialschools.org/cs/resources/view/ces_res/57)

### **When listening to colleagues' thinking:**

[http://www.essentialschools.org/cs/resources/view/ces\\_res/57](http://www.essentialschools.org/cs/resources/view/ces_res/57)

### **When reflecting on your thinking:**

- Ask yourself, "Why do I see this student work in this way? What does this tell me about what is important to me?"
- Look for patterns in your own thinking.
- Tune in to the questions that the student work and your colleagues comments raise for you.
- Compare what you see and what you think about the student work with what you do in the classroom.

### **When you reflect on the process of looking at student work, ask:**

- What did you see in this student's work that was interesting or surprising?
- What did you learn about how this student thinks and learns?
- What about the process helped you see and learn these things?
- What did you learn from listening to your colleagues that was interesting or surprising?
- What new perspectives did your colleagues provide?
- How can you make use of your colleagues perspectives?
- What questions about teaching and assessment did looking at this student's work raise for you?
- How can you pursue these questions further?
- Are there things you would like to try in your classroom as a result of looking at the student's work?